

The Invention

The present invention relates generally to information and resource management, typically in the context of an information apparatus. More particularly, various embodiments of the present invention provide for enhancing coordination between acquisition resources, and exploiting resources, via information association resources. Such information association resources may coordinate with acquisition resources so as to reduce the amount of user skill and/or effort consumed in distributing any particular information to any particular exploiting resource.

Specification

The Examiner states that 35 USC 112, first paragraph, requires the specification to be written in "full, clear, concise, and exact terms"; and then states that the specification should be revised in order to comply with 35 USC 112, first paragraph.

Although it appears that the Examiner makes the above statement regarding revision of the specification as a suggestion rather than a requirement, Applicants respectfully submit that no proper basis is set forth for requiring a change to the specification.

The text of 35 USC 112, first paragraph, actually states: "The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same, and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention." Since it is the description of the invention that must be so written, and the invention is defined by the Claims, Applicants submit that it is not sufficient for the Examiner to simply

state the specification is not in compliance without some reference to the Claims.

Drawings

The drawings have been objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because the reference numerals 302 and 312 have allegedly both been used to designate a display screen, and the Examiner has required a drawing correction. Further, the drawings have been objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because the reference numerals 301 and 310 have allegedly both been used to designate an exploiting resource, and the Examiner has required a drawing correction. Still further, the drawings have been objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because the reference numerals 326A and 326B have allegedly both been used to designate the microphone, and Examiner has required a drawing correction.

Applicants respectfully traverse all three objections to the drawings, along with the requirements for drawing corrections, made by the Examiner. For at least the reasons set forth below, Applicants respectfully request that these objections, and the corresponding correction requirements, be withdrawn.

First, reference numeral 302 indicates (by way of its associated lead line) a display screen, whereas reference numeral 312 indicates (by way of its associated lead line) a touch sensitive-element. These are two different reference numerals which indicate two different elements, as is required by 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4). It will be understood by those skilled in the relevant art that a touch sensitive-element may be incorporated as part of a display screen. The specification, at page 28, lines 18-21, clearly describes display screen 302, touch-sensitive element 312, and the relationship therebetween.

Second, reference numeral 301 indicates (by way of the arrow at the end of its associated line) "exploiting resources" such as display screen 302, display adjustment actuator 304, speaker 306, and indicator lights 308; whereas

reference numeral 310 indicates (by way of the arrow at the end of its associated line) "transducing/coupling facilities" such as touch-sensitive element 312, microphone 314, docking connection 316, communication port 318, and IrDA port 320; all as described in the specification at page 28, lines 18-22. In view of the specification, the Examiner's assertion that reference numerals 301 and 310 both designate exploiting resources is not correct. Further, reference numerals 301 and 310 each have an associated line ending with an arrow that is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.84 (r)(1).

Third, reference numeral 326A indicates (by way of its associated lead line) a first manipulation function, whereas reference numeral 326B indicates (by way of its associated lead line) a second manipulation function. These are two different reference numerals which indicate two different elements, as is required by 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4). Neither 326A, nor 326B, designate the microphone as is asserted by the Examiner. The microphone is actually shown by reference numeral 314 and its associated lead line. The specification at page 28, lines 26-30 describe the multi-function actuator, which may be implemented by, for example, a multi-position rocker switch.

Rejections under 35 USC 102

Claims 1-20 have been rejected under 35 USC 102, as being anticipated by Astarabadi, (US Patent 5,822,405).

With respect to Claim 1, the Examiner states that Astarabadi teaches Applicants' claimed information apparatus comprising acquisition resources, the acquisition resources providing for acquisition of information (col. 5, line 65, through col. 6, line 34); distribution resources, coupled to the acquisition resources so as to receive and distribute all or parts of the acquired information (col. 8, lines 17-41); and association resources, coupled to the acquisition and distribution resources, the association resources providing an association annotation to the distribution resources, whereby the distribution resources distribute responsive to the association annotation (col. 5, line 65, through col. 6,

line 34).

Applicants respectfully traverse the 35 USC 102 rejection of Claims 1-20, which is based upon the disclosure of Astarabadi, and request that these rejections be withdrawn.

Astarabadi discloses a computer system with hardware and software for remotely retrieving voicemail. The disclosure of Astarabadi is specific to voicemail retrieval and processing, which is unlike Applicants' invention which provides a system and architecture for general information and resource management in the context of multiple data types with multiple exploiting resources.

More particularly, Astarabadi, does not appear to disclose, suggest, or provide motivation for the claimed association resources which provide an association annotation to the distribution resources as claimed in Claim 1. Without this claimed element, Astarabadi cannot anticipate Applicants' Claim 1.

Additionally, Claims 2-20 depend either directly or indirectly from Claim 1, and therefore, for at least the reasons set forth above, are also not anticipated by Astarabadi.

Conclusion

All of the rejections in the outstanding Office Action of July 02, 2002 have been responded to, and Applicants respectfully submit that the pending Claims 1-20 are now in condition for allowance.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned **"Version with markings to show changes made"**.

Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Appl. No. 09/221,952

Respectfully submitted,

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Version with markings to show changes made

In the Claims

- 1 2. (Amended) The information apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, further
- 2 comprising processing resources coupled to one or more [or] of the acquisition,
- 3 association and distribution resources.